

Serial No.: 10/762,682

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this Patent Application, particularly in view of the above Amendment and the following remarks.

There is no additional fee for this Amendment because the independent claims and the total number of claims have not increased in number.

Amendment to Claims

Applicants have amended Claim 17 to place the limitation of "creating tension in the flexible vane" from objected to but allowable Claim 18 into Claim 17. Applicants have additionally placed objected to but allowable Claim 19 into independent form as new Claim 40. Applicants have further added new dependent Claims 41 and 42 to depend from Claim 40. Finally, Applicants have canceled withdrawn Claims 21-25. Applicants urge that this amendment adds no new subject matter to the subject U.S. patent application.

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Conclusion

Applicants believe that the above Amendment and remarks address each and every issue raised by the Examiner and overcome each and every objection and rejection. However, should the Examiner detect any remaining issue, Applicants kindly request the Examiner to contact the undersigned, preferably by telephone, in an effort to expedite examination of this Patent Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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